

Character Development



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The Character Bible

Defines a Character...

- Background
- Personality
- Values (professional, personal)
- Priorities (needs and wants)
- Back story



**EXCERPTS FROM CHARACTER
BIBLES
FOR
THE MISSION REHEARSAL
EXERCISE**



CHARACTER: PLATOON SERGEANT

USC

PLATOON SERGEANT CHARACTER TRAITS

PLT. SGT. FOX

PLT. SGT. STONE

PLT. SGT. VALADEZ

Primary professional differentiation

Experienced

Optimal model of a PLT SGT. Combines knowledge, experience, and adaptability.

Experienced

Effective but headstrong. Thinks that the end justifies the means.

Less experienced

Shows promise but has not yet matured in the position.

Personality Traits

Confident in his ability to make fast, intuitive decisions

Confident in his ability to make fast, intuitive decisions

Some uncertainty in the face of situations he has little real-world experience with.



USC

PLATOON SERGEANT CHARACTER TRAITS

Personality Traits

<u>PLT. SGT. FOX</u>	<u>PLT. SGT. STONE</u>	<u>PLT. SGT. VALADEZ</u>
Non-ethnocentric Open-minded	Ethnocentric Judgmental. Impatient with custom or cultural behavior he considers annoying or doesn't understand. Makes Little allowance for the influence that war, culture and history has had on Bosnians.	Open-minded yet impressionable Attitude toward Bosnians could be influenced by whether his experiences with them are weighted toward the positive or negative.
Empathetic Natural inclination reinforced by personal or vicarious experience with adversity.	Empathy is highly conditional Egocentric. Less inclined to put himself in someone else's place. Feelings of empathy only for those he considers worthy of it.	Empathetic Empathetic via socialization. Believes that empathy is an attribute of a "good person."

PLATOON SERGEANT CHARACTER TRAITS

Personality Traits

<u>PLT. SGT. FOX</u>	<u>PLT. SGT. STONE</u>	<u>PLT. SGT. VALADEZ</u>
Flexible. Intuitive, out of the box thinking.	Flexible. The ends justify the means.	Inflexible, “Square” approach to life (“By the book”).
Moderately Adventurous Comfortable with the need to take calculated risks to achieve objectives	Adventurous Aggressive, impulsive. Not given to much reflection. Has an appetite for new sensory impressions and new experiences.	Cautious and orderly Won’t “step out of the lane” too much.



PLATOON SERGEANT CHARACTER TRAITS

Personality Traits

<u>PLT. SGT. FOX</u>	<u>PLT. SGT. STONE</u>	<u>PLT. SGT. VALADEZ</u>
<p>Adaptable in the face of new or changing social and operational environments. Willing to compromise if it doesn't limit his effectiveness or undermine his objectives</p>	<p>Stubborn and uncompromising towards the social environment. Willing to flout regulations and social conventions if they conflict with his objectives.</p>	<p>Cautiously adaptable Will adapt to changes or new situations by modifying actions or adopting new approaches. However, needs a very clear and compelling rationale for doing so.</p>



Back Story

Platoon Sergeant's Interior monologue

Describes the Platoon Sergeant's mindset, concerns and agenda at the moment his Platoon Leader arrives at the accident scene

So now we're exactly where I didn't want us to be - stuck at this intersection when Eagle 1-6 needs us downtown.

Don't know where that woman came from. Just shot in to the intersection and that was it. Got an injured kid, a mother in shock and the locals are starting to close in around us.

Lieutenant's gonna pull up any second and he's just gonna love *this* shit. Gotta put him in the picture right away. Gotta just lay it out for him so we can get focused and get this kid out of here.



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Back Story

Platoon Sergeant's Interior monologue

Gotta get focused and get this kid out of here - -

Got to get a security perimeter set up around this accident.

Got to reassure the mom and see if I can get her calmed down. The crowd's watching and they also need to know we give a damn.

Need to know the boy's condition. Our combat lifesaver's not a full-blown medic but at least he may know whether we have a real bad situation here.



Back Story

Platoon Sergeant's Interior monologue

We got four squads here. Enough security for controlling the crowd and getting a chopper in here to Medevac the boy out.

Have to keep my radar on. Gotta keep a 360 degree eye on this crowd and make sure my people on the perimeter are staying cool and on top of things.

Gotta keep scanning the roofs and windows of these buildings.

